

BOOTLE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

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FOR THE YEAR 1915,

— OF THE —

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SANITARY INSPECTOR.





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# *To the Chairman and Members of the Bootle Rural District Council.*

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*March, 1916.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for 1915.

**The Death-rate** of the district is higher than last year.

**The Birth-rate** is also higher, and the Infant Mortality Rate continues to be fairly low, and is the lowest of any Rural District in the County.

**Infectious Diseases.**—There is a decrease in the number of cases notified as compared with the average of the last five years, and the number of cases of Tuberculosis shews a considerable decrease as compared with the last three years.

**Water Supply** is good in most parts of the district, but some farms west of Bootle Station are poorly supplied, and with the opening of the Narrow Gauge Railway to Eskdale, it is more than ever important that Eskdale Green should be provided with a better water supply than it enjoys at present.

**Rivers and Streams.**—The pollution of these is slight.

**Drainage and Sewerage.**—The various public sewers throughout the district have worked well.

**Closet Accommodation and Scavenging.** — The Closet Accommodation is sufficient, with very few exceptions, where action has been taken to improve it. Where the Scavenging system is in force it has been satisfactory.

**Schools** are visited from time to time, and the sanitary conditions are generally good.

**Food: (a) Milk Supply** is ample, and in my experience of good quality. It is all produced within the district. The dairies are well kept.

**(b) Other Foods.**—No unsound food has been found. The sanitary condition of premises where Foods are prepared, stored, or exposed for sale are satisfactory. The Slaughter-houses are regularly visited, and are well conducted.

(c) **Sale of Food and Drugs Act.**—This is administered by the police.

**Common Lodging-houses.**—None.

**Housing.**—There is no overcrowding, and the character of most of the houses in the district is good. Plans for 21 new buildings have been passed during the year by the Council.

Table showing summary of work done under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910 :—

Number of Dwelling-houses inspected under Section 17 of the Act of 1909, 20.

Number of Dwelling-houses which on inspection were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation, 17.

Number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to making a Closing Order, 3.

Number of Closing Orders made, nil.

Number of Dwelling-houses the defects in which were remedied without the making of a Closing Order, 14.

Number of Dwelling-houses which after the making of a Closing Order were put into a fit state for human habitation, nil.

The general character of defects found to exist :—

(a) Water Supply, 9.

(b) Closet Accommodation, 4.

(c) Drainage, 11.

(d) Condition as regards light, free circulation of air, dampness, and cleanliness, 10.

(e) Paving, drainage, and condition of yard and out-houses, 3.

(f) Disposal of refuse and ashes, 2.

**Tuberculosis.**—Ten cases notified. The premises are visited and instructions given to occupiers. Should a death occur, the premises are disinfected. There is an Open-air Shelter at Bootle, and a Dispensary at Millom for treatment of cases.

**Workshops, etc.**—Forty-one are on the register, and have been regularly inspected.

I append Table of Statistics, and am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. A. JOHNSTON,

M.O.H. Bootle Rural District Council.

TABLE I.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1915 and previous Years.

YEAR.	Popula- tion estima- ted to Middle of each Year.	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Uncor- rected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	of Non- residents register- ed in the District.	of Resi- dents not register- ed in the District.	Under 1 year of age.		At all Ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.		
												Number.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1907	5469		90	17·4	79	15·3			7	77·7	79	15·3
1908	5469		118	23·	77	15·2			9	76·2	77	15·2
1909	5050		121	23·9	73	14·4			5	41·3	73	14·4
1910	5050		109	21·5	78	15·4			4	36·7	79	15·6
1911	5664		111	19·6	63	11·12		2	7	63·	65	11·4
1912	5664		103	18·18	58	10·25		5	2	19·4	63	11·3
1913	5664	120	119	21·	72	11·35		8	7	58·8	80	12·61
1914	5664		104	18·35	49	8·65		1	5	48·07	50	8·82
1915	5664		117	20·6	71	12·5		5	<b>6</b>	51·	76	13·4

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 92,322.

Total population at all ages, 5,664 ; Number of inhabited houses, 1,149 ; Average number of persons per house, 4·9.

TABLE II.—Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1915.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases notified.							Total Cases notified in each locality.													Total Cases removed to Hospital.	
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
		Under 1	1 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 & under 25 years.	25 & under 45 years.	Above 45 years.															
Smallpox .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cholera .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Plague .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	5	..	..	1	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	5
Erysipelas .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever .. ..	6	..	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Typhus Fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric Fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Relapsing Fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Continued Fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Polyomyelitis .. ..	8	..	..	..	3	..	5	1	3	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	..
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other .. ..	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Totals .. ..	21	..	4	5	4	3	5	1	..	1	..	4	5	..	..	..	..	5	1	1	..	8

Isolation Hospital—Millom and Bootle Joint Hospital.

Total available beds, 44.

Number of Diseases that can be concurrently treated, 4.

TABLE III.—Causes of, and Ages at Death during Year 1915.

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Nett Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.									Total Deaths, whether of "Residents" or "Non-residents" in Institutions in the District.
		ALL AGES.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 years and upwards.	
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
All Causes	{ Certified ... Uncertified	76 nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	...	5	...	...	...	2	1	1	1	...	...
Tuberculosis Meningitis	...	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculosis Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	...
Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Organic Heart Disease	...	10	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	7	...
Bronchitis	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	5	...
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	5	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	1	...
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa and Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Alcoholism	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nephritis & Bright's Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	...	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	...	4	1	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Defined Diseases	...	14	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	...
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	...	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	15	3
		76	7	1	1	4	3	3	14	43	3



TABLE IV.—Infant Mortality, 1915.

Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under 1 year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.				Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	4 weeks & under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All Causes	Certified ...	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Uncertified	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Small-pox .. ..				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chicken-pox .. ..				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles .. ..				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever .. ..				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough ..				..	..	..	..	..	I	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria and Croup				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas ... ..				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculous Meningitis				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Abdominal Tuberculosis				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Tuberculous Diseases				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Meningitis ( <i>not Tuberculous</i> ).				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Convulsions .. ..				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Laryngitis .. ..				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bronchitis .. ..				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pneumonia (all forms)				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diarrhoea .. ..				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteritis .. ..				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gastritis .. ..				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Syphilis .. ..				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rickets ... ..				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Suffocation, overlaying				..	I	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Injury at Birth ..				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Atelectasis .. ..				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Congenital Malformations				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Premature Birth ..				..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus				..	I	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Causes .. ..				..	..	I	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
				4	..	I	..	..	..	I	..	..	..

Nett Births in the year :—legitimate, 109. Nett Deaths in the year of legitimate infants, 5  
 —illegitimate, 8. illegitimate infants, 1.

MILLOM,

March, 1916.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Bootle Rural  
District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Annual Report upon the sanitary condition of your District for the year 1915.

In consequence of the continuance of the War, and the great advance in prices of all classes of building materials, and the shortage of labour, practically all work upon sanitary and housing improvements have been suspended during the year, only work which was absolutely necessary being pressed.

My attention has been concentrated upon maintaining the health of the District with the greatest possible regard for economy, and it is indeed gratifying to know that while the cost of administration of the Health Department has reached the minimum, the efficiency of its work has not suffered, and, upon the whole, we have had a very successful year.

In order to reduce the cost of producing the Annual Report, I have summarised the work of my Department, and some useful information has had to be left out. I trust the details given will meet with your approval.

I have the honour to remain,

Yours obediently,

W. BRITTON-JONES,

Sanitary Inspector to the Bootle R.D.C.

**Water Supply.**—The district is, generally speaking, well supplied with various schemes of good, pure water, all upon the “ gravitation ” principle.

All the schemes have been maintained in a satisfactory condition, and have worked well during the year.

No new work has been carried out by the District Council during the year.

The farms below Bootle Station are still without adequate supply.

The position of Eskdale and Newbiggin and their water supplies are the same as last year.

**Rivers and Streams.**—The condition has been satisfactory during the year.

**Drainage and Sewerage.**—Although no new schemes of sewerage have been carried out by the District Council, the various systems in use have received constant attention, it is a pleasure to know these have all worked well and given every satisfaction throughout the year.

A fairly large scheme of sewerage has been prepared to deal with the drainage of a number of cottages to be erected at Monk Moors, for Messrs. Vickers’ Ltd. ; it is expected this work will be carried to completion in the near future.

A certain amount of private house drainage has been executed during the year, and the same high standard of work is maintained.

**Closet Accommodation.**—Generally speaking, the Closet Accommodation is sufficient, in very few cases has one convenience to be used by more than the occupiers of one house.

Whenever the sewerage system permits, water closets are suggested, failing which dry earth closets are suggested.

**Scavenging.**—This subject remains the same as mentioned in my last Annual Report. The question of a scavenging scheme for Ravensglass has been postponed for the time being.

The collection of house refuse at Seascale has been carried out very satisfactorily, no complaints having been received.

The work of cleaning the privies, etc., at “ The Hill,” which is carried out by contract, has been carried out satisfactorily.

**Sanitary Inspection of District.**—In the course of ordinary routine work, something like 200 premises have been visited during the year (as usual, many of the premises need to be visited several times whilst remedial work is in progress), and 103 sanitary



pone all but absolutely necessary work ; however, I am pleased to be able to report a certain amount of progress.

The work of reconstructing three houses at Ravenglass has now been completed, also the repairs to the cottage mentioned by the County Medical Officer of Health ; thus much-needed improvements to four houses are completed there.

The Mill House, Bootle, is now definitely closed, being unfit for habitation. Two new houses and a shop have been erected at Bootle Station, and 12 new houses are in the course of erection at Monk Moors. A summary of work done under the Housing Act is as follows :—

Number of Inspections made .....	20
„ „ Informal notices served .....	17
„ „ Formal notices served .....	3

New building has formed a somewhat important part of my work during the year : plans for 21 new buildings (15 new houses) and four additions to buildings having been passed by the Council ; with the exception of one of the houses (a bungalow at Green Road) all the work is completed, or well in hand.

Number of Houses inspected under Section 17 ... ..	20
Number of Houses found injurious to health ... ..	17
Number of Houses reported to Sanitary Authority for Closing Order ... ..	3
Number of Closing Orders made ... ..	nil.
Number of Houses repaired without Closing Order ... ..	14
Number of Houses, which, after the making of Closing Order, were put in fit state for occupation ... ..	nil.

General Defects found to exist :—

(a) Water Supply ... ..	4
(b) Closet Accommodation .. ...	9
(c) Drainage ... ..	11
(d) Ventilation, Light, Dampness, Cleanliness, etc. ... ..	10
(e) Paving and condition of Court-yard and Out-houses ... ..	3
(f) Disposal of Refuse ... ..	2

**Factory and Workshops Act.** — The conditions of the various work-places within our district remain very stationary. There has been a large extension to one of our workshops, and in one case attention was called to the necessity of lime-washing, and the work was carried out immediately.

The number upon the register remains the same, i.e., 41.

**Offensive Trades.**—There are no offensive trades in the district.

**Common Lodging-houses.**—There are no common lodging-houses in the district.

